

## AIDS Seminars— Volberding to Speak

Congregation Sha'ar Zahav is proud to announce a two-evening lecture series on AIDS. The first evening will focus on "Medical Aspects of AIDS: An Update" and will be held Tuesday, May 20, from 7-9 pm in the sanctuary. Dr. Paul Volberding will speak on treatment horizons, Dr. Harvey Bartnof will give an overview and Dr. Keith Barton will outline prevention strategies.

As Assistant Professor of Medicine at SF General Hospital and chief of the AIDS activities there, Dr. Volberding has become a world-renowned speaker and authority on AIDS. Dr. Bartnof is Lecturer in Medicine at the UCSF School of Medicine and Chief Physician at AVERI (AIDS Virus Education and Research Institute). Dr. Barton is a physician in private practice in the East Bay. A question and answer session will follow the three presentations.

A second evening devoted to "Practical and Humanitarian Issues in AIDS" will be held Thursday, June 5 from 7 to 8:30 pm. Tentatively scheduled to speak are Bea Roman from the Shanti Project and Jeannee Martin, RN from the AIDS Home Care & Hospice Program.

These programs are open to both our members and the general public. We expect that both programs will prove to be informative for all who attend.

### Congregational Meeting

Sunday, May 4, 2-5pm  
at the Synagogue

Elections and Discussion  
of the Covenant of Sanctuary



PHOTO BY NEIL HART

*It's my Purim and I'll wear what I want to!  
(Lavish Purim spread in this issue.)*

## Seder Workshop a Hit!

If you are still wondering why your hard-boiled eggs were not perfect at your Seder, or why your guests got bored in the middle of the reading of the Hagadah, then you did not attend our Education Committee's workshop on Sunday, April 13.

Thirty members of the Congregation enjoyed brunch on sunny Danvers Street, which had been closed for the occasion. Rabbi Kahn led a discussion on "how to read a successful seder for both adults and children." Participants brought along their favorite Hagadahs, which ranged from the classic *Maxwell House* version to the latest CCAR-sponsored edition. Rabbi Kahn outlined the important features of the Hagadah and also gave tips on how to read the Hagadah selectively without losing the Seder's message of freedom and redemption.

Members of the Cookbook Project provided samples of some of the traditional

holiday recipes, along with step-by-step cooking demonstrations. The cooking program was organized by Ron Moskowitz who taught "Gulfport Gefilte Fish" with homemade grated horseradish. Other presentations included Steve Unger on "the right water" for hard-boiled eggs; Frank Hyman's homemade schmaltz, Gordon Osser making the perfect matzo ball, as well as Mother Osser's chicken soup; Betty Kalis with "chopped liver a la St. Joseph, Missouri"; and Susan Unger's "Venetian" Haroset. Steve Elman related many of the Pesach food traditions of both the Ashkenazic and Sephardic communities.

This year's Passover workshop, ably organized by Ed Tanovitz, was fully subscribed before the reservation deadline. If you missed it, watch for the announcement of our high holiday workshops in September.



## Vice President's Report

I like being first at things. I liked being the first girl in my junior high to try out for the track team, and I liked being the first manager under the age of 25 at Random House. Here's a first I have mixed feelings about; I'm going to be the first Sha'ar Zahav Vice President that has chosen not to run for president. It's a good decision for me personally, and I'll still be around the Synagogue—aren't I always? But since I won't have a President's Column next year, Don has graciously given me his next-to-last to express my views.

A few weeks ago I went up to Sacramento to lead a service for Ahavat Zion, the new gay and lesbian Jewish group there. I spoke to one of the members who expressed this frustration to me: he was interested in frequent services, in a primarily religious community, and he felt that the general interest of the (as yet small) group was more socially focused. I sympathized with him of course, but I'm fortunate in that I didn't know personally how he felt. Ever since I've been with Sha'ar Zahav, there's always been, if not something for everyone, at least an opportunity to make a place for your particular interest. That's how we got the Women's Havurah, and the Brotherhood, and Saturday morning services, and the brand new Family Havurah. And that's the most amazing thing I've learned in my year as Vice President—how much the Synagogue does. When I was Chair of the Ritual Committee, I would have sworn that I must have been doing at least half the work of the Synagogue, partly because I

was so used to seeing things from that perspective, and partly because I couldn't believe that anyone else was expending the kind of time and energy that I was. Well, I was wrong. Not only one or two others, but lots of people are putting out just as much time and energy. Being an officer of the Congregation has given me an overview of the work being done—and its results—that is stunning. Another point, along the same lines, is that in visiting different committees, I have often heard the same issues and problems discussed in each, but never in quite the same perspective. It's quite an education to hear how one issue can affect different facets of one organization in such different ways.

Those are my observations; here's my advice. First, if there's something dear to your own heart that you feel should be a part of the Synagogue, whether it's childcare, or wheelchair access, or whatever, be willing to shoulder the work, or at least a part of it. Secondly, don't get in a rut. If you've been on the Finance Committee for five years, but wouldn't think of going to a Social Action committee meeting, try it. If you've never missed one of the Rabbi's classes, but never attended a Va'ad meeting, give it a shot. If you have been to every Women's Havurah event, but never to a Saturday morning service, come to one. Take the opportunity to see the Synagogue from a different angle. And lastly, I deeply feel that the leadership owes the membership a voice in Synagogue decisions, but nobody should be expected to read minds. Read the Va'ad

report in the newsletter. Find out what's being voted on when. Be there. Or send a note to the President, to the Executive Committee, or to the Va'ad. Speak up.

To me, Sha'ar Zahav's strongest point is its plurality and diversity. We discuss, we wrangle, we argue, but as long as what we all have in mind is the good of the entire Synagogue community, we can't go too far wrong.

B'shalom,

—Leslie Bergson

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**The Jewish Gaily Forward** is published 12 times annually by Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, (415) 861-6932. Permission to reproduce non-copyrighted material is freely given, credit would be appreciated.

Members of the Congregation receive *The Forward*. For a donation of \$12/year, non-members will receive *The Forward*.

All newsletter copy should be typed, double-spaced and is due no later than the date of the Va'ad meeting. It should be sent to the Synagogue office, marked to the attention of *The Forward*.

Members of the Newsletter Committee are Bob Goldware (Articles Coordinator), Stephanie Hannaford (Graphics Coordinator), Jay Feinstein (Advertising Coordinator), Alex Ingersoll, Richard Inlander, Irene Ogus, Alita Rosenfeld and David Stein (general editorial and production); Laurie Davis (photos); Frank Hyman, Ben Schalit, Barry Siegel, Sam Thal and Eli Weinstein (distribution). *The Forward* is typeset by Artspec Imaging Ltd.

**Display Ads** are \$15 per column inch for non-members and \$10 per column inch for members, with discounts available for size and frequency. Contact Jay Feinstein (621-6594) for specific rates. Ads should be camera ready; any ads that require typesetting, camera and/or artwork will be subject to a one-time production charge.

**Classified Ads** are \$5.00 for up to 20 words, plus \$1.00 for each 10 additional words.

Payment must accompany ad and should be sent to Congregation Sha'ar Zahav, 220 Danvers at Caselli, San Francisco, California 94114, marked attention *Forward* advertising. The advertising deadline is the 10th of the month. *The Forward* reserves the right to reject any ad for reasons of taste. For more information on advertising rates and charges, call the Synagogue Office at 861-6932.

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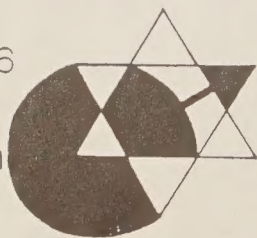
2nd ANNUAL

JEWSH MEN'S CONFERENCE

An all day conference exploring our identities  
as Jewish men.

Sunday, June 1, 1986

\$10 pre-registration



San Francisco Hillel

33 Banbury Drive

Call Robert Tufel at S.F. Hillel for information (415)333-4922



## From the Treasurer

Members and friends of the Congregation have increasingly become aware of their Tzedakah responsibilities and have been contributing generously to support the activities of the Synagogue and for special appeals.

We must, however, turn to you once again. Although all of us have tried to remain as cost-conscious as possible, a combination of unexpected expenses and price increases finds us facing a potential deficit of approximately \$6,000 on June 30, the end of our fiscal year. This takes into account revenues we would expect from such sources as outstanding dues and regular contributions.

None of us is willing to face the end of the fiscal year "in the red." That means we need a special contribution to the General Fund from every member to the best of her or his ability, as well as contributions from friends of the congregation to help us out.

Rabbi Kahn reminded us in a recent sermon that what we have is not ours, but ours to share. What better a place to share it than in the extended family of our Congregation. You may mark your contribution to the General Fund in honor of any person or occasion you wish, of course. Please send your check today, before it slips your mind.

—Betty Kalis

### Nominees for Election

#### Officers

**President,** Irene Ogus

**Vice President,**  
Richard Inlander

**Recorder,** Ben Schalit

**Treasurer,** Jerry Rosenstein

#### Va'ad Members at Large

Jay Feinstein  
Bob Goldware  
Eric Keitel  
Ellen Kugler  
Sen Talley

**Vote at the  
Congregational Meeting,  
May 4**

## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...

(so she says!)

## LYNN LAVNER

in concert

**A Benefit Performance for Congregation Sha'ar Zahav  
Saturday, May 3rd, 8:30 pm at the Synagogue, 220 Danvers**

**Donation: \$5 Members, \$8 Non-members**

**(Refreshments will be served)**

**COME EARLY—LIMITED SEATING**

## Summer Camp Revisited

For those of you who remember with fondness those years at Summer Camp, have we got an exciting and fun-filled weekend planned for you! Not only are we offering a beautiful setting (Camp Swig, in Saratoga, California, which is nestled in the redwoods of Santa Cruz County), but we are also offering something unique—programs and activities designed with the gay/lesbian camper in mind.

Brought to you by the five gay/lesbian congregations in the western United States, this Labor Day Weekend retreat (August 29-31) should prove to be one of the highlights of our synagogue year.

All you need to do is send in a request for a registration packet, and you too can be a part of the newest craze in the gay/lesbian community—Summer Camp!

The tentative schedule for the weekend has been designed and includes the following:

- Six delicious meals (Friday dinner through Sunday lunch)
- Shabbat services in a beautiful and inspiring sanctuary surrounded by redwood trees
- Stimulating workshops and discussion groups including some of the following topics:
  - Interfaith relationships
  - Intimacy and Communication/Getting Past the One-Night Stand
  - Choosing to be Parents
  - Women/Matriarchy in Judaism
  - Legal Aspects of Lesbian/Gay Relationships
  - Care for Senior Lesbians and Gays

- Swimming, volleyball, baseball, games and entertainment, movies, dancing under the stars, etc., etc.

We hope that we will see all of you there, but space is limited, so please get your registration materials as soon as you can.

For further information write to:

Western Regional Conference  
% Congregation Beth Chayim  
Chadashim

6000 W. Pico Blvd.

Los Angeles, California 90035

If you have any questions regarding the conference, please call Eric Keitel at 239-8180. See you all there!

## Lag B'Omer Picnic

The Membership Committee, chaired by Robin Leonard, is sponsoring a Lag B'Omer Picnic on Sunday, June 1, 11 am-3 pm at Golden Gate Park. Unfortunately, we won't have access to barbecue facilities, so for those of you just waiting for that perfect moment to inaugurate your shiny new Tupperware, this is your golden opportunity to show off those recent party purchases! We have reserved the Redwood Memorial Grove picnic area (next to the Rose Garden; park near the Stowe Lake boathouse). Volleyball equipment will be provided. All are welcome, especially children, and members are encouraged to bring a non-member to introduce them to Sha'ar Zahav.



## Reading for the River

I am pleased to present the First Annual Forward Summer Reading Recommendations. (And if I remember next year, it will become a tradition.) The last year has seen a burst of excellent new Jewish books, both fiction and non-fiction. Several are listed which are especially interesting, not too heavy (in weight or content) and are appropriate for the beach.

**Tanakh: A New Translation of the Holy Scriptures.** This is interesting—although not ideal reading for the beach. In 1962, the Jewish Publication Society (JPS) published its authoritative new translation of the Torah. It has now produced, in a single volume, the entire Hebrew Bible. It is a landmark of clarity, accuracy and scholarship.

If you don't want to read the Bible itself, there are two new fascinating books *about* the Bible. Robert Alter, a Berkeley faculty member, has written ***The Art of Biblical Poetry***, complementing his earlier book on biblical narrative. Both are beautifully written books on how to read the biblical text. Alter returns to the most familiar passages and unlocks deep reservoirs of meaning. This work represents modern scholarship at its best. Michael Walzer's ***Exodus and Revolution*** examines the biblical story of the Exodus as a political document and the use of the Exodus metaphor in Western culture. He ranges over the centuries, seeking the true intention of the biblical author and an understanding of how political thinkers—from Philo to Spinoza to Tom Paine, and everyone in between—have been influenced by the narrative of the Jewish people's liberation from bondage.

Two short-story collections, published a couple of years ago and deserving a wider readership are ***Gates to the New City*** and ***Elijah's Violin***. *Gates* contains over a hundred modern Jewish stories, organized according to theme: biblical, folklore, hasidic, etc. Excellent translations from Yiddish (Peretz), Hebrew (Agnon) and German (Kafka) appear alongside the best recent American short fiction. *Elijah's Violin* treats classic Jewish short stories in the same fashion. Howard Schwartz is the editor of both short volumes as well as ***Voices From the Ark***, an anthology of modern Jewish poetry.

Out of print for years and just republished is Milton Steinberg's ***As A Driven Leaf***. This novel is a fictional account of

a rabbi known in the Talmud as Elisha who loses his faith and leaves Judaism. While the book stands on its literary merits, it is also an excellent introduction to the world of the rabbis and the cultural milieu in Palestine two thousand years ago.

All of these books can be borrowed from the **Jewish Community Library** (14th Ave and Balboa) or purchased from **Bob and Bob** in Palo Alto. The JPS sells "memberships"—which means vouchers for book purchases from their extensive catalog—at many different price levels. They also feature a reduced-rate "College Program" and gift memberships. This non-profit publishing house is the world's largest publisher of Judaica. Write for a catalog: JPS, 1930 Chestnut, Philadelphia, PA 19103.

"And he sent books to all the Jews... with words of peace and truth." [Esther 9:30]

—Rabbi Yoel Kahn

## Family Havurah

The number of children in our Congregation is growing! On Sunday, March 16, parents, friends and some very cute little babies met at the Synagogue to discuss a number of issues involving children and Sha'ar Zahav: child care, possibilities for religious school studies and family holiday observance, to name a few.

All present expressed a need for a Jewish community "family," and so, we are proud to announce the formation of the Sha'ar Zahav Family Havurah. We will be meeting together on Saturday, May 10 from 11 am to 1 pm at the Synagogue to discuss and observe the rituals of Shabbat—family style—with music and (of course) food. (Please bring a dairy, vegetarian or fruit dish to share with four other people.)

The Havurah is not just for parents with kids. We sincerely hope that all CSZ members who are interested in spending some time with children will attend our first get-together and will help us to extend our very special and growing family. Please call Jill (534-2339) or Sue (534-1606) for more information.

## 100% Polyester

This year's Sha'ar Zahav Purim celebration Megillah Madness IV—better known as *Polyester*—opened (and closed) to cheering, applause, hisses, jeers, and shouts at the Women's Building.

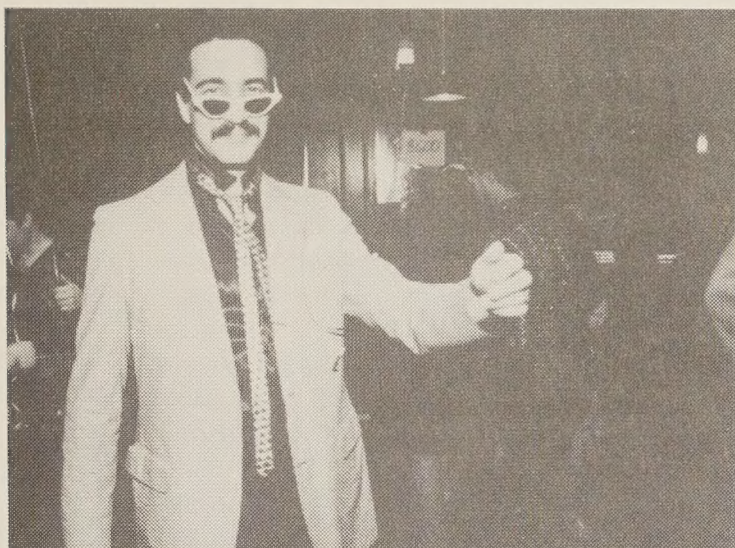
The fun-filled evening planned by the Social Program Committee chaired by Shirley Liberman once again mustered the troops to produce a memorable event. Costumed revelers bedecked in the latest Shushan polyester garb gambled and gamboled celebrating the demise of the evil Hamen(stein), and applauding the ingenuity of our ingénue Esther.

The mad Megillah narrated by Nancy Meyer and Kipp Leyser introduced many new discoveries. In addition to the pseudo-traditional roles of King Ahashuerus (played by Steve Elman), Vashti (Irene Ogus) and Esther (Sen Talley), heretofore undiscovered traits were revealed in the roles of Hamenstein, the fabric mogul (David Stein), and Mordechai, known among his friends as Lolacai (Allan Gold).



Other finds included Lolacai's backup group, the Lavaliers (George Lucas and Bob Goldware), who were not to be outdone by Esther and her Synthetics (Sharyn Saslafsky, Rosalinda del Moral and Francie McGowan)—if this sounds confusing...you had to be there. And of course, the true discovery of Purim 1986/5746 was the enchanting Francine, created by David Gass and retired forever hopefully. Costuming, designed in the sixties and unearthed in the tradition of Edith Head by Yoram Gal, Roger Bennett and George Lucas, helped to create an authentic sixties spirit for our polyester setting. The production was designed and realized by our own Catherine Wisniewski and Ralph Frischman.





PHOTOS BY LAURIE DAVIS

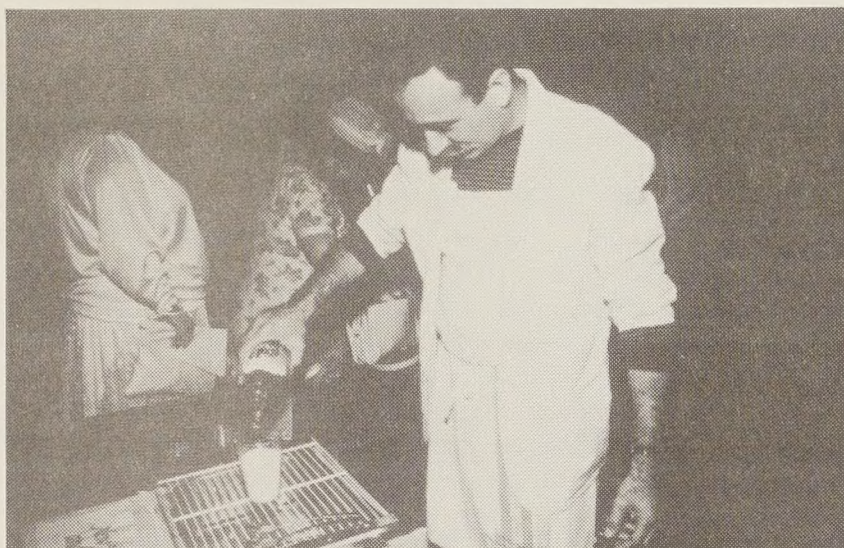


PHOTO BY NEIL HART

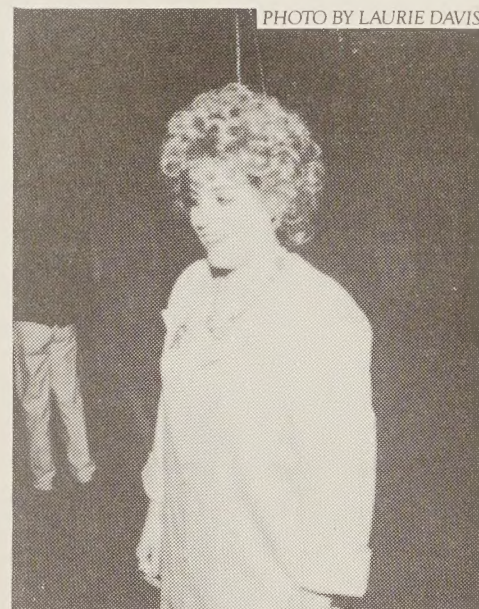


PHOTO BY LAURIE DAVIS



PHOTO BY LAURIE DAVIS

Sounds of the sixties were gathered by Kipp Leyser, Ron Gertz, David Gass and Ralph Frischman, recorded at the Berenstein Garden Studios, programmed in the sound booth by Frank Hyman, engineered by Randy Schiller and stage-managed by Leila Raim. Our thanks to the writers and directors, especially Ralph Frischman and David Gass.

As usual, these events cannot be produced without the help of many volunteers who aided in the setting up, who worked as dealers, croupiers, waiters, bartenders, egg-creamers, ticket takers, knish-pushers, and especially those who helped clean up the remnants of this year's Madness. By the way, we would like to request that whoever found Francine's cocktail cart (fully equipped) please contact the Synagogue office. A (very) small reward is promised.

**Announcement:** Watch these pages for the Megillah Madness V casting call for Esther Get Your Gun or maybe The Lost I Love Lucy Episode, which will begin shortly.



## Va'ad Report

**Y**our Board held its monthly meeting on, as always, the second Monday (April 14), at 6:30 pm in the Oneg Room. Many interested members of the Congregation attended. Rabbi Kahn was in New York attending the Union of American Hebrew Congregations Task Force on AIDS, so Garry Koenigsberg presented a D'var Torah on which several members spontaneously elaborated.

The Va'ad unanimously voted its commendation to Cheryl Orvis for her outstanding contributions to date to the Synagogue since leaving the presidency.

President Don Albert reported on the progress of a wide variety of congregational activities including plans for our participation in the Gay & Lesbian Freedom Day Parade and Israeli Independence Day. Marion Trentman has assumed the chair of the Women's Havurah. The treasurer's report by Betty Kalis emphasized the need to raise contributions to offset an anticipated \$6,000 deficit in this fiscal year's budget.

The Va'ad expressed its appreciation to David Gellman and his Building Committee for their fine work on the upstairs renovation—a task completed within budget! The Board also approved an additional expenditure from the Building Fund in order to complete the installation of appropriate bookshelves in this wonderful new work space and library.

The Board reviewed and approved for presentation to the Congregation the Finance Committee's proposed budget for fiscal year 1986-87. Ron Lezell and the Social Action Committee then presented its revised recommendation for a Congregational Covenant of Sanctuary. After extensive discussion and some modification, the Board voted to accept the covenant and recommend its adoption by the Congregation.

Other committee reports included such diverse areas as the Cookbook Project, Seder plans, an update on the Western Regional Conference, the Education Committee's continuing lecture series,

and more. During our traditional meeting evaluation, everyone agreed that a long agenda had been handled remarkably well due to efficient process and a heartwarming spirit of cooperation. In fact, as promised here last month, the meeting adjourned in time for everyone to put the finishing touches on their income taxes.

The Va'ad will meet again on the second Monday in May. All members are welcome to attend. See you then.

—Richard Inlander, Recorder

## Oneg Sponsors

**D**uring the month of March, Friday night Onegs were sponsored by the following generous people:

- 14—Mike Rankin, in honor of Marion Trentman and Jim Buchanan
- 14—Richard Inlander, in memory of Ted Mendonca
- 21—David Shaber and Ralph Frischman, in celebration of Purim
- 28—Shelley Fernandez, in honor of the re-dedication of her particular friendship with Michal Abts

All you have to do to sponsor an Oneg is to think of the occasion and contact the synagogue office (861-6932). The cost of sponsoring an Oneg is approximately \$50 (partial sponsorship available) or you can also provide the food, flowers, etc. for a more personal touch.

## Welcome Jacqueline!

**C**ongregation Sha'ar Zahav has a new office secretary, Jacqueline Letalien. For the time being the office will be open on Tuesday (10am-4pm), Wednesday and Thursday (2-7pm) and Friday (10am-1pm).

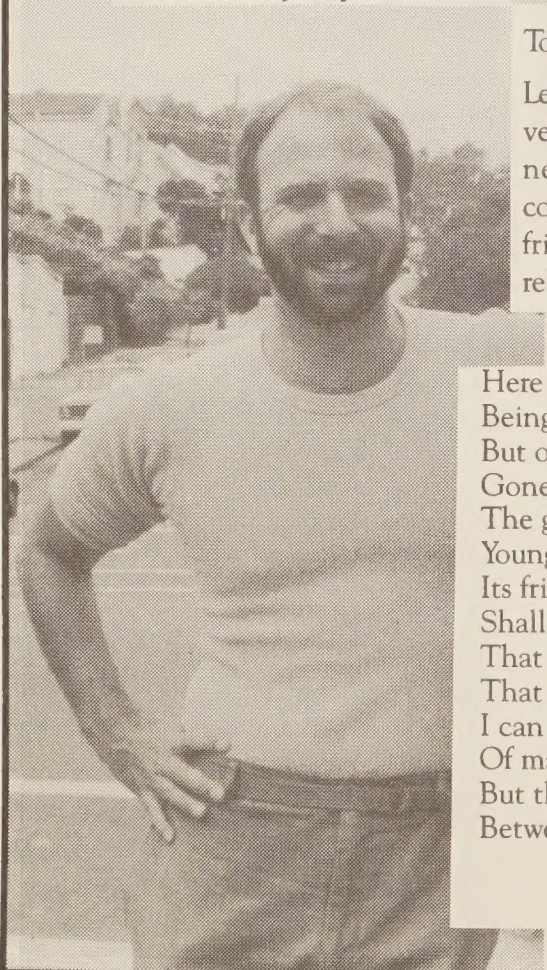
We are pleased to welcome you, Jacqueline, to Sha'ar Zahav, and we all look forward to working with you.

## Classified Ads

**HOUSESITTERS AVAILABLE!** Going on vacation, or taking a sabbatical? Two professional males, age 37 and 47 available for housesitting this summer in San Francisco. References furnished, honesty assured. Will consider reciprocal hospitality for use of desert condo. Call Al or Bill (619) 340-5685.

### Ron Gertz

1/22/48-4/2/86



To his friends—

Let his zest for life, his joie de vivre envelop you. Let his enthusiasm, his eagerness engulf you. His pride in his community guide you and let the love and friendship he radiated shine in all of your relationships.

Here is a wound that will never heal, I know,  
Being wrought not of a dearness and a death,  
But of a love turned ashes and the breath  
Gone out of beauty; never again will grow  
The grass on that scarred acre, though I sow  
Young seed there yearly and the sky bequeath  
Its friendly weathers down, far underneath  
Shall be such bitterness of an old woe,  
That April should be shattered by a gust,  
That August should be levelled by a rain,  
I can endure, and that the lifted dust  
Of man should settle to the earth again;  
But that a dream can die, will be a thrust  
Between my ribs forever of hot pain.

Edna St. Vincent Millay  
Sonnet XXXII



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				22 Nisan 1 8th day Passover, Yizkor Membership Comm. 7:30pm 386-7876	23 2 Eat Bread! Services 8:15pm	24 3
25 4 Congregational Meeting 2-5pm	26 5	27 6 Yom ha-Shoah	28 7 Yom ha-Shoah lecture 8pm	29 8 Newsletter Mtg. 1772 Sanchez 7pm	30 9 Rosh Chodesh I Cookbook Deadline Services 8:15pm	1 Iyar 10 Rosh Chodesh II Family Havurah 11am-1pm
2 11 Va'ad Meeting 6:30pm Newsletter Deadline	3 12	4 13	5 14 Israel Independence Day Soviet Vigil Green & Baker 11:30am	6 15	7 16 Services 8:15pm	8 17
9 18 Women's Havurah Pool Party Brunch, Danville, noon	10 19	11 20 AIDS Lecture 7pm	12 21	13 22	14 23 Services 8:15pm	15 24
16 25	17 26 Israel Expo Pier 3-Fort Mason 10 am-6pm	18 27 Lag B'Omer	19 28	20 29 Social Action, 7:30pm Newsletter Mailing 7:30 pm 11 Grandview Terr.	21 30 Services 8:15pm	22 31 Morning Services 10:30am

## Ritual Calendar

## Friday, May 2

Parshah: Aharei Mot, Lev. 16:1-18:30

Haftarah: Ezekiel 22:1-19

Garry Koenigsberg

## Friday, May 9

Parshah: Kedoshim, Lev. 19:1-20:27

Haftarah: Isaiah 6:1-24

Eric Keitel—Services

Rabbi Yoel Kahn—Sermon

## Friday, May 16

Parshah: Emor, Lev. 21:1-24:23

Haftarah: Ezekiel 44:15-31

Leslie Bergson and Steve Greenberg

## Friday, May 23

Parshah: Be-Har, Lev. 25:1-26:2

Haftarah: Jeremiah 32:6-27

Daniel Chesir and Dana Vinicoff

Torah Service

## Friday, May 30

Parshah: Be-Hukkotai, Lev. 26:3-27:34

Haftarah: Jeremiah 16:19-17:14

Rabbi Yoel Kahn

## Saturday, May 31

Morning Services, 10:30 am

Ritual Committee

## Birthdays

- 1 Avner Lapovsky
- 2 Rena Frantz
- 3 Marion Trentman
- 4 Don Eiten
- 6 Joyce Amburgey
- 8 Stephanie Hannaford
- 10 Lawney Baldwin
- 16 Ron Shore
- 16 Ed Tanovitz
- 17 Ed Gabay
- 17 Janice Macomber
- 18 David Stein
- 21 Jerry Rosenstein
- 29 Marilyn Kalman
- 29 Eric Keitel

## Future Dates

## June 1986

- Sun 1 Lag B'Omer Picnic
- Thu 5 AIDS Lecture
- Thu 12 Erev Shavuot
- Fri 27 Officer Installation
- Sun 29 Gay/Lesbian Parade

## July 1986

- Fri 11- Leadership Advance
- Sun 13 Wildwood Ranch

## August 1986

- Sat 9- Gay Games II
- Sun 17
- Fri 29- Western Regional
- Sun 31 Conference—Camp Swig

## September 1986

- Sun 21 Castro Street Fair

## October 1986

- Fri 3 Erev Rosh Hashanah
- Sat 4 Rosh Hashanah
- Sun 12 Kol Nidre
- Mon 13 Yom Kippur



## So Ask Aunt Yente

Dear Aunt Yente,

So why do we always have to say Kiddush on Friday nights? Why do we need more prayers in the oneg room after we finish all the prayers in the sanctuary?

Impatient on Irving

Dear Impatient,

Aunt Yente understands how maybe you get a little impatient to start eating at the oneg (although Aunt Yente, herself, would get more impatient if there was eppes a piece herring to look forward to—but she's not complaining!); but the importance of the Kiddush you should not question. As the Talmud says:

[If you think Aunt Yente is making this up, go look in *mesechta Megilla*, *blat* 27, *amid* 2]

"Rabbi Huna once came before Rab wearing a string as a belt. Rab asked, What is the meaning of this? He replied, I had no wine for Kiddush, and I pawned my silk sash to get some. Rab said, May it be the will of Heaven that you be rewarded one day by being smothered in silks. On the day that Rabbi Huna's son got married, Rabbi Huna—who was a short man—was lying on a bed; and his daughters and daughters-in-law stripped garments from themselves and threw them on him, until he was smothered in silk. When he told Rab, Rab was chagrined, and said, So when I blessed you, why did you not say, The same to you Rabbi?"

So Aunt Yente will just mention to the women of the synagogue that if they have nothing else to do, they should remember that Aunt Yente, like Rabbi Huna, also always says Kiddush regularly, and that she is also short (although on her, it looks better; although Rabbi Huna was also cute, in a short, rabbinic kind of way, if you like men who wear string).

But still, you ask, why is Kiddush so important that saying it entitles you to be covered with other people's clothing? You yourself noticed the reason when you pointed out that it is said in the oneg room, not in the sanctuary. The prayers in the sanctuary are the evening service, one of the three services said on Shabbos (actually four, but that's another column). When that service is over, so it's over, and we leave the sanctuary; but we do not leave Shabbos. The holiness of Shabbos will continue for the rest of Friday night and Saturday. So in the Kiddush ceremony, where we say a blessing over the wine to sanctify both the wine and the Shabbos at the same time, we're dedicating the whole day that follows as a kind of prayer, as a holy observance. Kiddush is not really part of the service in the synagogue, but instead makes the Shabbos time we will spend *outside* the synagogue also a service before God.

In an Orthodox congregation, Friday night prayers are said before people eat dinner, and after the service, everyone goes home and says Kiddush with their families. When we choose to say Kiddush together, it helps us see ourselves as one big family. (It is very appropriate to do this in the oneg room, since after we finish the food at the oneg, we become an even bigger family.)

Aunt Yente

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## Anniversaries

5/31 Harvey Bartnof and Kipp Leyser

## MARILYN MILLER FINANCIAL PLANNER

- Tax free retirement income
- High-yield securities, plus liquidity under life insurance umbrella
- Offering variable life and traditional investment plans
- Immediate decisions urged due to newly proposed AIDS screening.

Free Consultation  
Call Marilyn Miller (415) 861-0880

## Yahrzeits

- 1 Moise Affias, Grandfather of David Kotch
- 1 Benjamin Katz, Grandfather of Bruce Katz
- 6 (27 Nisan) Morris Goldman, Grandfather of Jonathan Goldman
- 6 (27 Nisan) Hans Rosenstein, Brother of Jerry Rosenstein
- 11 (2 Iyar) Dora Fox Solomon, Grandmother of Elliott Toporek
- 12 Jack Fleming, Brother-in-law of Gordon Osser
- 13 Miriam Dreskin, Mother-in-law of Barry Siegel
- 14 Harold Leben, Uncle of Rob Tat
- 15 Stella Tinnin, Great-great Aunt of Lisa Daniel
- 18 Jack Cohen, Grandfather of Jay Cohen
- 18 Blair Isrow, Cousin of Steve Cronenwalt
- 19 Hyman Feinstein, Father of Jay Feinstein
- 20 Marika Chill, Mother of Yo Schneeman
- 21 Marvin Saslafsky, Father of Sharyn Saslafsky
- 21 (12 Iyar) Abe Schorr, Father of Cynthia Schorr
- 24 Patrick Whalen, Friend of Paul Wotman
- 24 (15 Iyar) Harry Skolnick, Grandfather of Hal Heller
- 26 Ida Parker, Mother of Harold Parker
- 26 (17 Iyar) Frances Raim, Mother of Leila Raim
- 29 Rose Jacobstein, Aunt of Betty Kalis
- 30 Steven Koenigsberg, Friend of Don Albert
- 30 Mary Thal, Mother of Sam Thal
- 30 Morton Lobos Wilks, Brother of Shelley Fernandez

Note: Yahrzeits will be read at services on the Friday preceding the Yahrzeit date.

## Attorney

**David R. Gellman**  
**(415) 621-2966**

- Contracts & Leases
- Estate Planning & Wills

- Real Estate
- Business Law & Litigation

**Reasonable Fees**  
**Evening &**  
**Weekend**  
**Appointments**

**45 Franklin St.**  
**San Francisco, Ca.**  
**94102**



## Contributions

Sha'ar Zahav welcomes all contributions, of all sizes, to mark any event, and to any of our funds. Contributions will be acknowledged in the *Forward* unless requested otherwise.

Donations were made to Sha'ar Zahav's funds in the past month by the following contributors:

### General Fund

Cheryl Orvis & Beth, in memory of Sophie Roston, Jerry Rosenstein's mother  
Ron Lezell and the Vigil for Soviet Jewry, on the release of Anatoly Shcharansky  
Clarence McClanahan  
Don Albert, wishing a speedy recovery to David Kotch, Mark Landsberger and Kurt Stutzman  
John Golebowski  
Krag Rjirdaal  
Gwen Schwartz, in memory of her son, Robert Schwartz  
David Gass, in celebration of his father's successful eye surgery  
Stanley & Gloria Gass, in celebration of Stan's successful eye surgery  
Jon Funk, in honor of the Purim Planning Committee  
Gordon Osser, in honor of the Purim Committee and performers  
David Gass, to celebrate his new "family member", his puppy  
Bob Goldware, in memory of Ron Gertz  
Ben Schalit, in memory of Rabbi Ben Marcus

### AIDS Fund

Sen Talley, in honor of Rabbi Robert Kirschner  
Jon Funk & John Arnold, in honor of Harvey Bartnof's birthday  
Shirley & Bob Gottesman, in memory of Steve Richter  
Roberta Achtenberg, in appreciation of Steve Greenberg and in memory of Steve Richter  
David Gass, in memory of Ron Gertz  
Don Albert, in memory of Ron Gertz  
Allan Berenstein, in memory of Ron Gertz  
Bruce Katz, in memory of Ron Gertz  
Ron Lezell, in memory of Ron Gertz  
Leila Raim & Catherine Wisniewski, in memory of Ron Gertz

### Building Fund

Richard & Barbara Mendelsohn, in memory of Sophie Roston, Jerry Rosenstein's mother  
Enoch Harrison  
Jerry Rosenstein, in honor of Ron Moskowitz's 25 years in San Francisco  
Alex Ingersoll & David Stein, in honor of Marilyn O'Keeffe's new job

### Torah Fund

Betty Kalis, in honor of Marion Trentman and her beautiful Ark  
Jon Funk, in memory of Ron Gertz  
Richard Inlander, in honor of Peter Samuels

### Rabbi's Discretionary Fund

Laurie Radovsky, in memory of Rabbi Ben Marcus; and to wish a speedy and complete recovery to Cheryl Orvis  
David Volpendesta, in honor of his father, William Volpendesta  
Eric Keitel & Aaron Cooper, in appreciation of Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Education Fund

David Gass, in honor of the birth of Alyssa Blair Dossik, his new cousin  
Sen Talley, in honor of Ralph Frischman and Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Prayerbook Fund

Ed Blevins, in memory of Evelyn Baldwin, mother of Lawney Baldwin

### Library Fund

Sen Talley, in memory of Ted Mendonca  
Howard Blechman, in memory of Ron Gertz  
Alex Ingersoll & David Stein, in memory of Ron Gertz

### Social Action Fund

Laurie Radovsky & Geoff Marshall, in honor of their marriage  
Jon Funk & John Arnold, in honor of Bruce Katz's birthday  
Scott Glen Klein, in memory of Rabbi Ben Marcus

## Stern Wins Award

*With the Power of Each Breath, A Disabled Women's Anthology*, edited by Susan Browne, Debi Connors and CSZ member Nanci Stern, has won the 1986 Book Award from the President's Commission on Employment of the Handicapped. Nanci is scheduled to be in Washington, D.C. on May 1 to attend the awards ceremony. Mazel Tov, Nanci.

The award is given to books which excel at improving the image of disabled people and which increase knowledge in the field of disability. *With the Power of Each Breath* was reviewed in the September 1985 issue of the *Forward* and was subsequently adopted by the UAHC for inclusion in its teacher training program curriculum. Copies of the book may be obtained directly from Nanci or from Modern Times or Old Wives Tales bookstores in San Francisco.

DANIEL CHESIR  
and  
STEFAN ROWNIAK  
are pleased to announce  
that they are, at long last,  
cohabiting in their  
new home at  
769 14th Street  
San Francisco, CA 94114  
863-6615

## Women's Havurah Brunch

The Women's Havurah will be getting together at Betty and Marion's in Danville for a pot luck brunch and an afternoon of swimming, hot tubbing and fun on Sunday, May 18th starting at noon. It's a good chance for new women members to get acquainted. Bring a dish to share, but also bring your ideas for future activities you would like the Women's Havurah to sponsor.

Coffee, juice, soft drinks, plates and utensils will be provided and barbeque facilities will be available.

Call the Synagogue office to let us know you will be there, if you need a ride or can provide a ride.





## Rabbi Yoel Kahn

### Officers:

President, Don Albert  
Vice President, Leslie Bergson  
Treasurer, Betty Kalis  
Recorder, Richard Inlander

### Va'ad (Board) Members:

Alex Ingersoll  
Allyce Kimerling  
Garry Koenigsberg  
Shirley Liberman  
Irene Ogus  
Leila Raim  
Mike Rankin  
Jerry Rosenstein  
Sharyn Saslafsky

**Member** Union of American Hebrew Congregations and World Congress of Gay and Lesbian Jewish Organizations.

### Committee Chairs:

Bikkur Cholim, by committee  
Building, David Gellman  
Bylaws, David Gass  
Education, Paul Cohen  
Finance, by committee  
Membership, Robin Leonard  
Newsletter, Alex Ingersoll  
Oneg, Peter Abinanti  
Public Relations, Sharyn Saslafsky  
Ritual, Daniel Chesir  
Social Action, Ron Lezell  
Social Program, Shirley Liberman  
Women's Havurah, Marion Trentman

**Services** are held every Friday evening beginning at 8:15 p.m., with an Oneg Shabbat following services. Services are generally held on the last Saturday of each month at 10:30 a.m.—check calendar for each month.

### Data Managers:

Alita Rosenfeld  
Jerry Rosenstein

### Office Secretary:

Jacqueline Letalien

**The Synagogue Office** is open Tuesday, 10 a.m. to 4 p.m., Wednesday and Thursday, 2 p.m. to 7 p.m., and Friday, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. At other times, please leave a phone message.

**Emergency Number:** In an emergency, the Congregation can be contacted outside of office hours by calling 420-9718.

**Congregation Sha'ar Zahav** is located in the Upper Market District of San Francisco at 220 Danvers at Caselli, which is one block south of the intersection of 18th & Market Streets. By public transport, take MUNI bus 33 Ashbury to 18th & Danvers and walk one block south on Danvers to Caselli.

## Yom Ha-Shoah Lecture

In commemoration of Yom ha-Shoah, the Education Committee's Lecture Series has scheduled a presentation by Jerry Rosenstein for 8:00 pm, Wednesday, May 7. Jerry will be sharing his experiences during the Holocaust when he was an inmate of Auschwitz and other camps.

His struggle will permit us to hear firsthand of the human struggle to survive the death camps and then to build a new life in the United States. As a resident of San Francisco for 37 years, Jerry has developed a successful career in international trade and maintained a strong interest in community affairs, serving on the Board of the Holocaust Memorial Library and the Merola Opera Program.

Jerry has been a member of the Congregation for five years and is a candidate for Treasurer, after having served two years as a member of the Va'ad. His presentation on May 7 will enable us to ask important questions in an atmosphere of learning and remembering.

During the past two years, Jerry has spoken before groups at University High



School, University of San Francisco and the Graduate Theological Union. He has contributed to the Oral History Project of the Holocaust Memorial Library. His own story begins with his childhood in Germany during the rise to power of the Nazis.

This presentation will be a rare opportunity to hear and learn about one person's experiences during the destruction of European Jewry. The lecture is open to the community and donations to Sha'ar Zahav's Education Fund will be accepted.

## Cookbook Project

### Call for Cooks & Computer Hacks

In the not-too-distant future, an exciting and attractive cookbook will roll hot off the presses with the stories and culinary delights of Sha'ar Zahav. But to have your recipe included, you can't delay—the final cut-off date for accepting recipes is Friday, May 9. Recipe forms are available at the Synagogue.

The Cookbook Committee invites all cooks and computer operators to join the cookbook team. Positions are still available for recipe testers—and you needn't be a professional chef to apply.

We plan to enter the text of the book onto IBM-PCs. If you are blessed with flying (or even jogging) fingers, and (preferably) know some WordStar, we promise to feed you Jewish delicacies while you tackle a very manageable amount of typing.

To sign up, rush to your phone and call Cookbook Project Manager, Susan Unger at 552-3141.





**Ahavat Shalom--San Francisco  
Beth Chayim Chadashim--Los Angeles  
Sha'ar Zahav--San Francisco  
Tikvah Chadashah--Seattle**

**Cordially Invite you to**

**SHARE . . . CELEBRATE . . . GROW**  
**at**

## **"BEING TOGETHER"**

**The First Western Regional Conference of Gay, Lesbian  
and Bisexual Jews**

**to be held over Labor Day Weekend, August 29-31, 1986  
at scenic Camp Swig in the majestic Santa Cruz Mountains  
(50 miles south of San Francisco, in Saratoga, California)**

**Enjoy a relaxing atmosphere of warm camaraderie with other Gay, Lesbian  
and Bisexual Jews and their friends**

**at a fun-filled weekend of workshops, recreation, folkdancing, outdoor  
activities, worship, social events, good food and entertainment--  
all in a mountain setting of superb vistas, clean air and redwood groves.**

**Registration Fee -- includes lodging, all workshops, activities  
and meals from Friday dinner through Sunday lunch.  
\$87.50/person until June 30 -- \$97.50/person after July 1**

The Conference is officially authorized by the World Congress of Gay & Lesbian Jewish Organizations

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MAIL TO: Western Regional Conference  
c/o Congregation Beth Chayim Chadashim  
6000 W. Pico Blvd.  
Los Angeles, California 90035

Phone: (213) 931-7023

Please send me more information and a registration packet (type or print)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

*Space is limited -- Registration is encouraged by May 15, 1986.*



